STATE OF LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE BATON ROUGE, LA.

November 30, 2006

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STATE PERSONNEL MANUAL TRANSMITTAL SHEET NO. 426

To: HEADS OF STATE AGENCIES AND PERSONNEL OFFICERS

Subject: Amendment of Rule 6.5(g)

Issue Date: November 30, 2006

The Governor has signed the revision to Civil Service Rule 6.5(g), Extraordinary Qualifications/Credentials. The revised Rule will become effective December 4, 2006.

If there are any questions concerning the subject matter of this Transmittal Sheet, please contact Marianne Covington at (225) 342-8083.

Please make the following changes in your Civil Service Rules:

<u>REMOVE</u>		<u>INSERT</u>	
<u>Page</u>	T/S	<u>Page</u>	<u>T/S</u>
20.21	361	20.21	361
20.22	377	20.22	426

Sincerely,

s/Anne S. Soileau Director

- 2. When special entrance rates or special retention rates are adjusted downward, the individual pay rates of employees occupying positions affected by the authorized rates shall not be changed.
- 3. Special entrance rates and special retention rates must be approved by the Commission at its next scheduled meeting after action was taken by the Director.

(c) Reentering the Classified Service.

The pay of an employee reentering the classified service, other than one being restored to duty following military service, may be fixed at any rate in the range, or within the range plus base supplement authorized for the position in which he is being employed, that does not exceed the highest salary he previously earned while serving with permanent status in a classified position other than detail to special duty. If the range for the job has been adjusted and the range minimum is higher than his former salary, he will enter at range minimum. If the former salary is higher than the range maximum or range maximum plus authorized base supplement, his pay rate shall be set no higher than the range maximum, or range maximum plus base supplement if authorized for the position in which he is being employed. The appointing authority may at any time grant, to the extent permitted by other provisions of these Rules, any increase for which an employee having reentered the classified service possesses eligibility under this subsection. This Rule shall not apply to a former employee who was dismissed or resigned to avoid dismissal.

(d) Restricted Appointments.

When an appointing authority makes a restricted appointment, he may set the pay of the employee at any rate in the range.

(e) Return From Military.

Subject to Rule 8.19, when an employee returns from military service and is restored to duty in his former, equivalent or lower position, his pay shall be fixed at the rate earned prior to leaving the classified service. If the job or equivalent job had been upgraded or any pay adjustments granted, he shall be granted a pay rate reflecting the impact of these adjustments, as though he had been in that job at the time of the adjustments.

(f) The Director, with the approval of the Commission, may establish special hire rates for workers employed by any State agency which administers federal funds for use in this state, either directly or indirectly or as a grant- in-aid or to be matched or otherwise, provided such State agency is required to by rule or regulation of, or contract with, a participating federal authority to pay such special rate, except that an appointing authority must comply with the minimum wage rate as prescribed and required by Federal rules, statutes, regulations and judicial decisions, when such minimum rate is in excess of that provided for in these rules.

(g) Extraordinary Qualifications/Credentials

Subject to the provisions of Rule 6.29, if an applicant who is eligible for appointment under provisions of Chapters 7 and 8 of the Rules possesses extraordinary or superior qualifications/credentials above and beyond the minimum qualifications/credentials, the appointing authority may, at his own discretion, pay the employee at a rate above the minimum provided that

- 1. such superior qualifications/credentials are verified and documented as job related,
- 2. the rate does not exceed the third quartile of the range for the affected job,
- 3. the rate is implemented in accordance with written policies and procedures established by the department,

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4. the appointment is a probationary, provisional or job appointment.

The employee may be paid upon hiring or at any time within one year of the hire date. If paid after the hiring date, the pay change must be prospective. The salaries of all current probational and permanent employees who occupy positions in the same job title and who possess the same or equivalent qualifications/credentials may be adjusted up to but not to exceed the amount of the percent difference between the special hiring rate and the regular hiring rate provided that the qualifications/credentials are also verified and documented as job related and that the rate is implemented in accordance with written policies and procedures established by the department; such policies shall be posted in a manner which assures their availability to all employees. Such adjustments shall only be made on the same date that the higher pay rate is given to the newly hired employee.

If an employee with permanent status resigns and is then rehired into either the same position or into the same job title or a lower level job in his career progression group at the same agency, the employee shall not be eligible for an increase under this rule unless there has been a break in State service of at least 60 days.

(h) Reentering the Classified Service Without a Break In Service

When an appointing authority requires an employee to resign a permanent position in order to accept a probational appointment, and the employee accepts such an appointment without a break in service, and the appointment would have been considered a promotion according to Rule 6.7 the employee shall retain eligibility for the promotional increase for a period not to exceed 1 year. The appointing authority may grant any increase for which the employee would have been eligible under Rule 6.7. This Rule shall not apply to an employee who was dismissed or resigned to avoid dismissal.